

HOUSE

AMENDMENT NO.____

Offered by

_____ of _____

AMEND House Substitute for House Committee Substitute for House Bills Nos. 679 & 396, Page 4, Section 168.283, Line 5 of said page, by inserting after all of said line the following:

"207.030. 1. The chief administrative officer of the division of family services, or its successor division or divisions, shall be a director [of family services], who shall be a person qualified by education and experience to supervise the work of the division of family services and shall be a citizen and taxpayer of Missouri. Before entering upon his or her duties the director shall subscribe an oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of the United States and of the state of Missouri and to faithfully demean himself in office. [He] The director shall enter into good and sufficient bond, payable to the state of Missouri, conditioned upon the faithful discharge and performance of official duties, and upon accountability for all property and funds coming under his or her administration and

Action Taken _____

Date _____

control, said bond to be approved by the attorney general as to form, and by the governor as to its sufficiency, the premium on said bond to be paid by the state. The governor may remove the director of the division of family services for incompetence, misconduct, or neglect of duty.

2. The division of family services, or its successor division or divisions, shall only employ the following persons or categories of personnel:

(1) A director;

(2) Up to three positions to provide administrative and clerical assistance to the director;

(3) Nine state-level positions, one from and for each congressional district to assist the director in the oversight and operations of the local division offices; and

(4) County office directors and personnel employed pursuant to section 207.060.

All state appropriations, financial expenditures, and other monetary savings realized and resulting from the reduction in state-level division personnel required by this section, including but not limited to savings from expenditures for salaries, employee benefits, equipment, supplies, and facilities, shall be used solely to employ and provide similar benefits, equipment, supplies, and facilities for additional personnel in

the local offices working in direct services positions, such as caseworkers, clerical workers, and other frontline positions. Any person employed by the division whose position on the effective date of this section is not included in any of the categories listed in subdivisions (1) to (4) of this subsection, but is qualified for any of the positions listed in this subsection shall be eligible for employment by the division for any of the additional positions created by the monetary savings realized from the reduction of personnel required by this section. Such employment shall be at the same rate of compensation that current employees in such positions are receiving from the division. No personnel in the local offices shall be dismissed, laid off, or otherwise removed from the payroll of the division in order to provide a position for any person whose position on the effective date of this section is not included in any of the categories listed in subdivisions (1) to (4) of this subsection.

3. Any bureaus, offices, and other subdivisions of the division of family services other than the local offices authorized pursuant to section 207.060 are hereby abolished and the duties of such bureaus, offices, and other subdivisions of the division shall be reassigned to the director and/or the local offices of the division with oversight by the nine state-level positions established in subdivision (4) of subsection 2 of this

section."; and

Further amend said bill, Page 5, Section 207.085, Line 7 of said page, by inserting after all of said line the following:

"207.150. 1. The division of family services may, subject to appropriation, provide housing assistance to the parents of children who are at imminent danger of removal and placement or who are in the custody of the division pursuant to court order, if a primary barrier for keeping the child in the home or reuniting the child's family is the homeless condition of the parents and to parents who are at risk of having their family separated due to inadequate housing or homelessness. Housing assistance shall be provided pursuant to this section, based on the development of a family housing plan. The plan will address current needs, and the movement toward adequate housing and independence. Housing assistance shall not exceed the average market rate for the area, and the plan shall be provided on a month-to-month assessment, not to exceed six months. Such housing assistance may be in the form of rent subsidies, rent arrears, deposits or other housing-related assistance sufficient to obtain adequate rental housing.

2. The division of family services shall designate a housing specialist [within the division] from among the nine state-level division positions authorized in section 207.030 who shall be responsible for the administration and coordination of

housing assistance funds.

3. The division of family services shall promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section. No rule or portion of a rule promulgated under the authority of this section shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to the provisions of [section 536.024] chapter 536, RSMo."; and

Further amend said title, enacting clause and intersectional references accordingly.